

Daily Meditation 06/26/2022

The Un-Supreme Court and the Unraveling of America

Good morning.

Today we're meditating on the bad news from the Supreme Court this week, because there were two pieces of bad news.

First came the bad news about throwing out the 111-year-old law in New York State to limit the carrying of concealed weapons. I don't know why the Supreme Court feels that it is anointed to throw out laws that can limit killings--especially after killings in the Texas Elementary School and in Buffalo, New York this past month. But the other bad news in this bad news court is, of course, its hysterical decision about who has the rights over a women's body.

And I think with these kinds of decisions, there is an unraveling happening to America. Because, in fact, 72% of Americans, including 43% of Republicans, favor keeping Roe vs Wade. But the Supreme Court feels anointed to turn its back on Americans, instead creating peculiar legal arguments, such as calling on 17th century jurists--two of them who believed in witch burnings and putting witches on trial.

And including them is unbelievable in their so-called arguments to get rid of this law that has been in place for 49 years, and to which several current Supreme Court justices pledged their fealty in their hearings with the Senate, saying they recognize this was established law.

So, it's a dark time, and I share with you the response, first of all, from my sister, because it's important to hear from women on this. And then I also share with you a story, paintings, from Hildegard of Bingen about the unraveling of a community of creation.

So in this picture, here, you see her image, which repeats in some other paintings as well, of the golden ropes, the golden ropes of creation. And that is also a symbol for her of the Creator, their golden fiery ropes.

Notice they're in order, they're mandalas themselves keeping things together. Keeping things together. That is what the Holy Spirit does, in her opinion. And we are all to follow suit.

But then I share with you the painting which she calls "Powers, Principalities, and the Antichrist," up in the right hand corner here.

This particular painting is very important. And she has five wild animals--five of them, just about the number of the Supreme Court judges--with rope in their mouth, the same rope undoing the order of creation.

See each one is on their own, but they all have a rope in their mouth. One is the wild lion, a wild bear, a wild dog, a wild horse...and they all stand for the various vices in humanity. And let's see how she names the vices. Some of them certainly apply.

And she calls on the apocalypse, the Book of Revelation, and she talks about the end times.

- And she says that the fiery dog stands for humans who bite at their own condition, who do not burn with justice for God.
- The reddish lion stands for warlike men who wage wars without considering God's judgment.
- The pale horse stands for those who put luxury living and selfish pleasure before worthwhile acts.
- The black pig stands for rulers who create sadness and uncleanness in themselves and their subjects.
- And the wolf stands for those who rob others.
- The black rope represents the darkness that stretches out many injustices.

So, Hildegard was in tune, I think, with our times.

I want to share with you another reading from my sister. And this was written up by Leila Cohen--her response to the Supreme Court decisions.

"If it was about babies, we'd have excellent and free universal maternal care. You wouldn't be charged a cent to give birth, no matter how complicated your delivery was. If it was about babies, we'd have months and months of parental leave for everyone. If it was about babies, we'd have free lactation consultants, free diapers, free formula. If it was about babies, we'd have free and excellent childcare for newborns on. If it was about babies, we'd have universal preschool, pre-K and guaranteed after school placements."

Clearly, this decision is not about babies. It's about something else. It's about politics. It's about power, about appealing to the religious right.

We'll be discussing these matters further as we move along.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.